

# coNected

Bradford West Gwillimbury

Issue 04 • Fall 2024



Bradford  
west  
Gwillimbury

# Contents

Contents.....	0
Welcome to Connected from Mayor and Deputy Mayor .....	3
BWG Council.....	4
Do you know your ward? .....	4
Council meetings .....	4
Staying Informed .....	5
Town Website .....	5
e-Newsletters.....	5
Social Media .....	5
Local News Sources .....	5
Mayoral Midterm Review .....	6
Councillor Updates .....	11
Cheraldean Duhaney Ward 1.....	11
Quick Facts .....	11
Jonathan Scott Ward 2 .....	12
Quick Facts .....	13
Ben Verkaik Ward 3.....	14
Quick Facts .....	14
Joseph Giordano Ward 4 .....	15
Quick Facts .....	16
Peter Ferragine Ward 5 .....	16
Quick Facts .....	17
Nicholas Harper Ward 6.....	18
Quick Facts .....	18
Peter Dykie Ward 7.....	19
Quick Facts .....	20
Advisory Committee Updates .....	20
Green Initiatives Advisory Committee .....	20
Committee Highlights .....	21
Budget 2024.....	21
BWG's Budget Process .....	21

Budget 2024.....	24
Budget 2024.....	24
BWG Hosts 2nd Mayor and Council's Golf Tournament.....	25
Gearing Up for Winter .....	27
Service Standards .....	27
Application Material .....	28
Snow Clearing Tips.....	28
Reporting an Incident/Complaint.....	28
Upcoming Events and Campaigns .....	29
Santa Claus Parade.....	29
Saturday, November 16 .....	29
Snow Much Fun.....	29
Friday, December 6.....	29
Family First Night.....	29
Sunday, December 31.....	29
Mayor's New Year's Levee .....	30
Sunday, January 5 .....	30
Budget 2024.....	30
The Future of the BCC.....	31
Closing Remarks from Deputy Mayor.....	31

## Welcome to Connected from Mayor and Deputy Mayor



*Photo of Mayor  
James Leduc*

As the sun rises higher and the days grow longer, I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to the vibrant energy of summer in our town. With the changing seasons comes a renewed sense of community and excitement for the opportunities that lie ahead. I am thrilled to introduce the third edition of Connected — BWG’s interactive digital publication designed to keep residents informed and engaged with what is new and exciting.

In this edition, we are thrilled to feature the invaluable work of our Accessibility Advisory Committee, share updates on some Budget 2024 projects like our new Public Square, discuss summer upgrades at local parks, and highlight upcoming events you don't want to miss!

In order to maintain its interactive elements, like photo slideshows, video integration, and links to our website, this publication is best viewed online. You can however download and print the pdf using the “Download PDF” icon on the ribbon at the bottom of this page.

If you haven’t already, make sure to follow us on social media and on the news portal of our website to receive up-to-date information on road closures, construction and planning notices, and other events and activities.

Happy reading!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Leduc'.

Mayor James Leduc



## BWG Council

Bradford West Gwillimbury Council consists of nine members, all of whom are elected by the public. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor serve the residents at large, and the seven Councillors each represent a Ward within the municipality.



**James Leduc**  
Mayor  
[Send me an email](#)



**Raj Sandhu**  
Deputy Mayor  
[Send me an email](#)



**Cheraldean Duhaney**  
Councillor, Ward 1  
[Send me an email](#)



**Jonathan Scott**  
Councillor, Ward 2  
[Send me an email](#)



**Ben Verkaik**  
Councillor, Ward 3  
[Send me an email](#)



**Joseph Giordano**  
Councillor, Ward 4  
[Send me an email](#)



**Peter Ferragine**  
Councillor, Ward 5  
[Send me an email](#)



**Nickolas Harper**  
Councillor, Ward 6  
[Send me an email](#)



**Peter Dykie**  
Councillor, Ward 7  
[Send me an email](#)

## Do you know your ward?

[Click here](#) to confirm your Ward by searching our online interactive ward boundaries map.

## Council meetings

Regular Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Council meetings start at 7 pm and are held in person (Zima Room at the BWG Public Library, 425 Holland Street W.) and streamed live on our YouTube channel.

Click on any of the topics below to learn more.

[Agendas, Minutes, and Schedules](#)  
[Speaking Before Council](#)  
[Council's Strategic Priorities](#)

# Staying Informed

There are many ways to stay connected with Town of BWG news including:

## Town Website

Published in Spring 2023, the new Town website is a one-stop-shop for information on BWG's programs and services, featuring an accessible and responsive design, enhanced search functionality, Google translate integrated and more!

Visit our news page for the latest information on projects, road closures, planning notices, and more.

Our community calendar features events happening around town, from Town-hosted events to events organized by local community groups and organizations.

[www.townofbwg.com](http://www.townofbwg.com)

## e-Newsletters

BWG's digital publication Connected is a quarterly digital publication that features stories on upcoming and ongoing projects, Town services, and more.

As we continue to enhance our communication efforts with BWG residents, stay tuned on our website and social media channels for new ways of staying informed with town-wide happenings.

If you have any questions or concerns on anything you have read in Connected or have ideas for future editions, please [click here](#) to get in touch with our communications team.

## Social Media

The Town is active on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Aside from our website, social media is the best place to receive the latest information on BWG's programs and services.

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#)!

## Local News Sources

The Town Info section at BradfordToday contains information on events, notices, and more.

Articles from the Town of BWG are shared daily!

[Click here](#) to visit our Town Info page.

## Mayoral Midterm Review

As we reach the midpoint of our term, Deputy Mayor Raj Sandhu and I are proud to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our council in building a vibrant and livable community. Our focus has extended beyond housing to encompass the creation of a complete community that truly meets the diverse needs of our residents. Together, we have made significant strides in land donations that support future growth, completed a comprehensive organizational review to enhance our operations, and prioritized community safety initiatives to ensure a secure environment for all. Our commitment to recreation is evident in the development of a Leisure Master Plan and numerous park upgrades, enriching the quality of life for our residents. We are also actively engaged in ongoing discussions surrounding the Bradford Bypass, recognizing its importance for our community's connectivity and economic development. We look forward to continuing this journey together, celebrating our progress, and building an even brighter future for everyone.

Two of our most significant achievements this term includes the donation of land for a new high school and the future expansion of the Danube Senior Centre. Securing land for the high school is a crucial step in addressing the educational needs of our growing community. This generous donation not only reflects a strong commitment to our youth but also lays the foundation for a vibrant learning environment. By investing in our educational infrastructure today, we are setting the stage for a stronger future, equipping our young residents with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive. This initiative underscores our dedication to supporting families and enhancing the overall quality of life in our community. If all approvals go smoothly, we anticipate construction could begin as early as 2026.

The second significant land donation ensures we can expand programming offerings for the seniors of BWG. With the increasing demand for these essential services, we are delighted to support this growth while maintaining uninterrupted service for our current seniors. We are immensely grateful to our development community for their generous donations and continued support of our town. Together, we are building a promising future for all residents, young and old.

To enhance our operational efficiency, we initiated an Organizational Review in December 2023. This vital initiative aims to streamline our processes, enabling us to serve our residents more effectively. Since 2002, our town has evolved significantly in size, composition, and structure to meet the changing landscape of municipal service delivery. This evolution has been driven by growth-related demands, new programs, and additional responsibilities stemming from shifts in provincial policy and the Simcoe County official plan. With a projected population of approximately 84,000 by 2051, it is imperative for Bradford West Gwillimbury and other municipalities in Simcoe County to update our long-term plans accordingly.

Organizational reviews are essential for identifying inefficiencies and areas for improvement within our municipal services. By conducting a comprehensive evaluation of our operations, we can streamline processes, reduce redundancies, and enhance interdepartmental communication. This approach not only optimizes resource allocation but also ensures that residents receive timely and effective services. Ultimately, our goal is to create a more responsive and accessible government, fostering better engagement and delivering tangible

benefits for our community members. We are committed to implementing the insights gained from this review to enhance the quality of service we provide to our residents.

Community safety remains a top priority for our residents, and we are excited to share the great progress we've made to enhance it through initiatives like Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) and the Traffic Mitigation Strategy (TMS), which are helping to ensure safer streets for everyone. We are enthusiastic about the positive impacts we're already seeing—reduced speeds and safer conditions on our roads. Council has committed to reinvesting any proceeds generated by the ASE program into further traffic safety initiatives, providing direct benefits to our taxpayers.

As our community continues to grow, so does the need to accommodate increased traffic flows and ensure the safety of all road users. Recognizing this, Council has placed community safety and traffic Congestion as its number one priority within our Strategic Priorities. The Strategic Initiatives Committee is actively working on improving pedestrian pathways and implementing traffic calming measures throughout the town, reinforcing our commitment to creating a safer environment.

To effectively address traffic concerns, we developed the Traffic Mitigation Strategy (TMS). This comprehensive document offers a data-driven, technical process that employs industry best practices to respond to traffic safety issues. The TMS outlines a clear framework for evaluating, prioritizing, implementing, and monitoring traffic requests submitted by residents and stakeholders. Its technical criteria and detailed descriptions of each step ensure that our decision-making is well-informed, transparent, and based on solid data.

Crucially, this strategy was developed through a collaborative effort involving Council, residents and town staff. Community engagement was a key component of the process, with residents participating throughout the study, including at three Public Information Centres (PICs). The insights gathered from these groups provided invaluable guidance in shaping the TMS. We are currently finalizing the release of the TMS, which will be available on the Town's website. For more information about this important initiative, please visit the Traffic Mitigation Strategy webpage at [www.townofbwg.com/TMS](http://www.townofbwg.com/TMS).

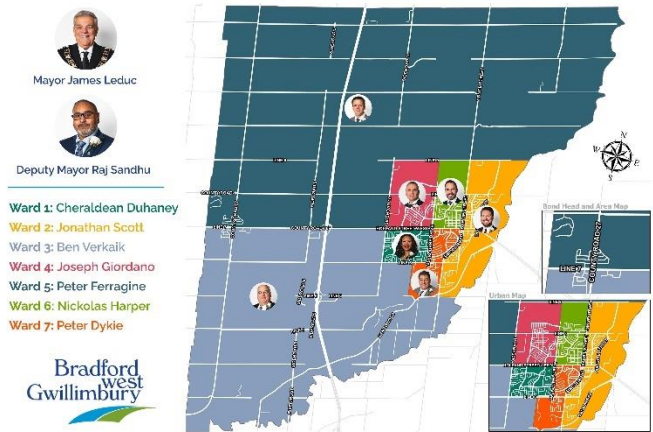




We are thrilled to share the progress made on our Leisure Master Plan, which identified 39 recommendations aimed at enhancing our community's recreational spaces. One of the most significant steps forward is our commitment to securing future green fields through to 2051, addressing the anticipated growth of our population to 84,000. By purchasing additional green spaces, we are proactively ensuring that we can meet the recreational demands of our expanding community.

Our investments in park upgrades and infrastructure improvements across multiple wards are already making a visible impact. Here are some notable updates that highlight our dedication to creating vibrant recreational areas for all:

**Celebration Square:** With winter approaching, our contractors are working tirelessly to install the flatwork concrete before the cold sets in. Subgrade preparation is nearly complete, and work on the stage structure will begin shortly. The site is beginning to take shape, featuring beautiful concrete planting beds that double as seating, a water play feature, and a multi-purpose stage structure. We anticipate project completion by spring 2025!



*BWG Councillor and ward map.*

**Lotto Park (Bradford East):** This exciting addition in the southeast corner of Bradford is progressing well, with foundations for the chain-link screening around the multi-purpose sports courts already in place, as is the playground. Stay tuned for the completion date!

**Luxury Park:** True to its name, Luxury Park is undergoing significant renovations. Nearing completion, we're excited to see tree planting, trail asphaltting, and sod installation in the coming weeks, followed by final grading and garden bed enhancements.

**Bill Marks Trail:** We recently completed major upgrades to the entire south side of the trail network, featuring widened asphalt that meets accessibility standards. New sod has been laid, and our contractors are diligently addressing any remaining deficiencies.

**Bond Head Northwest:** We're finalizing drawings and details in preparation to issue tenders for construction to begin in spring 2025. This project will feature unique armour stone retaining walls, accessible play structures, and ample open areas for active play.

**Legion Park:** This year, we replaced curbs and safety surfacing to complement the new shade structure and concrete pad installed in 2023. These improvements have revitalized the Legion Park, enhancing accessibility and comfort for all users.

**Brookfield Parkette:** A new shade structure has been designed and implemented to replace the old pergola, completed in spring 2024, providing much-needed comfort for park visitors.

**Henderson Sports Storage Building:** To better serve user groups at Henderson fields, we're installing a concrete pad for an 8' x 36' storage shed, equipped with three rolling doors, ensuring easy access for local soccer associations.

**Civic Centre:** On October 7, the Strategic Initiatives Committee made significant decisions about the proposed facility, marking the transition from conceptual planning to design development. The consulting team will soon begin drafting and conducting workshops to refine the facility's design.

**177 Church Community Hub:** After much anticipation, the commercial kitchen at 177 Church has been completed and certified, ready for use. Tenants continue their fit-ups as this space evolves into its final form.

**Joe Magani Diamond 6:** Ongoing conversations with The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) regarding the Environmental Impact Study and preliminary design for a sixth diamond at Joe Magani Park are progressing, despite the complexities posed by the site's environmental features. We hope to see construction begin in 2025.

**Road Improvements:** The recent repaving of 8th Line and Reagen's Industrial Rd has greatly improved access for both residents and local businesses.

Together, these initiatives are a testament to our commitment to building a thriving community with accessible and enjoyable recreational spaces. We look forward to seeing our vision come to life as we continue to work hand-in-hand with residents to create a vibrant, active environment for all.

Our collaboration with the province is driving forward the Bradford Bypass project, an essential initiative aimed at alleviating congestion and improving traffic flow throughout our community. This project is crucial for enhancing connectivity and overall quality of life for our residents, and we couldn't be more excited about the future it promises!

We recognize that the ongoing construction in our community has posed challenges for commuters, and we truly empathize with the frustrations that come with temporary disruptions. However, we firmly believe that these short-term inconveniences are a necessary step toward achieving significant long-term improvements for everyone who relies on our roads daily.

While the wait may be tough, the benefits of a more efficient transportation network will make it all worthwhile. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work diligently toward a more connected and accessible Bradford West Gwillimbury. Working together—across all levels of government and with our community—is how we build a brighter future for BWG. The commitment we share will pave the way for smoother commutes and a thriving community for generations to come!

Looking ahead, we are excited to be actively engaged in the Official Plan review, ensuring that we thoughtfully envision how our community will grow and flourish over the next 30 years. This collaborative effort reflects our commitment to creating a bright future that meets the needs of all residents.

In addition to all our efforts to create a better BWG, we are filled with pride for our role in planning and executing the recent parade, festivities, and airshow honouring 100 years of the Royal Canadian Air Force! This momentous occasion not only celebrated the incredible bravery

and dedication of those who have served, but also brought our community together in a vibrant display of pride and patriotism. It's truly inspiring to note that the entire event was made possible through various fundraising efforts, reflecting the generous spirit of our community. Together, we crafted a memorable celebration that embodies our shared commitment to honouring our heroes and strengthening the bonds that make our community truly special!

As we move forward, we are confident that our collective dedication and hard work will result in a thriving, connected, and sustainable community for generations to come. Together, we are laying the groundwork for a vibrant Bradford West Gwillimbury, where everyone can enjoy a high quality of life. The best is yet to come, and we can't wait to embark on this journey with all of you!



*Deputy Mayor Sandhu, Minister Sarkaria, Mayor Leduc, and Deputy CAO Mahesh Ramdeo at the Bradford Bypass announcement*



# Councillor Updates

## Cheraldean Duhaney

### Ward 1

Councillor Duhaney is thrilled to see the many improvements throughout her ward and the rest of BWG over the first half of Council's term. From the completion of the Southwest Arterial Roads project to new youth initiatives, Duhaney is proud to see the positive changes taking shape throughout BWG.

#### Community and Traffic Safety

Traffic and safety measures continue in Ward 1. An all-way stop sign and crosswalk have been installed at the intersection of Miller Park Avenue and Sutherland Avenue. Additionally, a three-way stop at Aishford Road and Sutherland Avenue has been installed in an effort to enhance pedestrian safety and manage traffic in the area.

#### Youth and Community Engagement

This spring, Councillor Duhaney proposed a motion to create a Youth Council in BWG, which has since been approved! The Town is excited to announce the formation of its first Youth Council Advisory Committee, composed of youth residents who are eager to make a difference in their community. Join the Committee for their inaugural meeting on November 20 and get the opportunity to engage with emerging leaders and empower their involvement in local governance.

#### Regional Representation and Advocacy

In August, Councillor Duhaney was elected to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Board to represent the Small Urban Caucus. This is an exciting opportunity for Duhaney to advocate for our community at the provincial level and promote policies that benefit small urban areas like ours.

Councillor Duhaney remains committed to advocating for safety initiatives within her ward and the community, as well as being a champion for youth opportunities and programming throughout BWG.

#### Quick Facts

**Ward Councillor:** Cheraldean Duhaney

**Ward Boundaries:** North: Holland Street West, East: Melbourne Drive, South: Line 6, West: Sideroad 10

**Parks**



*Councillor Duhaney with town residents at the new crosswalk in ward 1.*



Alan Kuzmich Memorial Park  
Brookfield Parkette  
Constable Devon Northrup Memorial Park  
Gwillimbury Park  
Westbrooke Parkette

## Trails

Middletown Trail  
Grand Central Valley Land Trail  
Alan Kuzmich Trail

## Schools

### Primary

St. Angela Merici Catholic School  
Chris Hadfield Public School

### Secondary

Holy Trinity Catholic High School

## Jonathan Scott

### Ward 2

Councillor Scott is excited to share the work being done throughout Ward 2 and beyond. From public transit improvements to new schools, and upgrades to our parks, the Town is focused on ensuring its residents have access to quality public services that enhance their daily lives.

### Park Upgrades

Quality public parks are essential to creating a vibrant community, providing space for recreation, relaxation, and gathering. Over the summer, the Town continued investing in public spaces that enrich our community. Luxury Park saw significant upgrades, and the new Bradford East Lotto Park in Ward 2 is under construction, complete with multi-use sports courts, playgrounds, and more. Upgrades continued at Legion Park, and the new Youth Centre at Lions Park is a hit with our local teens.

### Public Transit

The Town is enhancing public transit with a new Master Plan focused on accessibility and affordability. Over the next few years, the Town will add ten new buses, expand routes, and



*Councillor Scott championing environmental initiatives.*

introduce employment shuttles, while keeping fares low at one dollar per ride. Additionally, Metrolinx is nearing completion with the final upgrades to the GO station parking lot underway.

## Education

Council has made great strides toward securing a second public high school. The Town is currently reviewing a developer's proposal to donate land for a new school, has secured expansions for the Catholic high school, and are advocating for new elementary schools. Quality education is a cornerstone of a strong community, and BWG is working to ensure our students have just that.

## Community and Traffic Safety

We've introduced new speed mitigation measures to keep our streets safe, especially in the area of Colborne Street and St. Marie of the Incarnation Catholic School. Upgrades include bollards and enhanced crosswalks, helping to protect children and pedestrians.

## Looking Ahead

The Town looks forward to transforming Holland Street into a vibrant downtown area with smart traffic signals and tree-lined sidewalks. New affordable housing projects and more local healthcare options are also on the horizon.

Councillor Scott looks forward to continuing his service in Ward 2 and making a positive impact in the community,

## Quick Facts

**Ward Councillor:** Jonathan Scott

**Ward Boundaries:** North: Line 9, East: BWG East Border, South: Line 5, West: Simcoe Road/Barrie Street/Yonge Street

### Parks

- Centennial Park
- Hernan Parkette
- Legion Parkette
- Lions Park
- Taylor Park

### Trails

- Lions Park Trail
- Taylor Park Trail

### Schools

#### Primary

- St. Charles Catholic School
- St. Marie of the Incarnation Catholic School

## Ben Verkaik

### Ward 3

Councillor Verkaik is thrilled to see the many improvements taking place throughout BWG and in his ward.

#### Road Construction and Rehabilitation

After two years of construction, the Southwest Arterial Roads (SWAR) Project is officially complete. Sideroad 10 and Line 5 between Holland Street and the Line 5 interchange was rebuilt, a new roundabout was installed at Sideroad 10 and Line 6, and Fraser Creek underwent stormwater management upgrades with the addition of two new culverts. Pedestrian access along Line 6 was also improved with a newly lit pathway. Additionally, streetlights are up and running at the curved intersection of Sideroad 10 and Line 5. The completion of these projects has greatly improved traffic flow, and pedestrian access in the area.



*BWG Council at the Week of Welcome.*

#### Community and Traffic Safety

Traffic safety has been a top Council priority from the get-go. During the first rotation of the ASE pilot program, speed cameras were installed on Line 7, between Lallien Drive and Dixon Road to help calm traffic in the area.

#### Protecting our Planet

BWG remains committed to protecting its wetlands. With grant funding from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), the Town recently completed a bank reshaping and slope stabilization of the Holland Marsh. The project has been successful in improving drainage channel management, reducing phosphorus loading, and stabilizing the banks of the main drain. This initiative has and will continue to support the long-term health and stability of the Holland Marsh drainage system.

Councillor Verkaik looks forward to continued advancements throughout BWG and is excited to see more positive changes stem from the second half of council's term.

### Quick Facts

**Ward Councillor:** Ben Verkaik

**Ward Boundaries:** North: County Road 88, East: Sideroad 10/Simcoe Road, South: Highway 9/Holland River, West: 1km west of County Road 27

#### Parks

Bud Brown Park

#### Schools

Primary

Sir William Osler Public School

## Joseph Giordano

### Ward 4

#### Community and Traffic Safety

Councillor Giordano remains steadfast in his efforts to enhance community and traffic safety in BWG. After seeing great success with the new ASE pilot project, Councillor Giordano brought forward a motion to ensure that the revenue generated from the project is prioritized for speed mitigation measures in Town. The motion passed, with council supporting the commitment of ASE proceeds to help curb speeding along key streets within the Traffic Mitigation Strategy guidelines. The Strategy aims to address longstanding speeding concerns on BWG's busiest routes, offering permanent solutions like speed humps and curb extensions that slow traffic effectively.



Residents at the 2024 Retro Street Party.

Enhancements to the pick-up and drop-off Zones at Bradford District High and Fieldcrest Elementary are now complete, and a new accessible pedestrian ramp has been installed at the intersection of Professor Day Drive and Blue Dasher Boulevard. These measures have been critical to provide safe access to students and pedestrians throughout Ward 4.

#### Community Engagement

Councillor Giordano and his team hosted the 3rd Annual Retro Street Party in the Summerlyn neighbourhood. The beloved gathering was a huge success, marking yet another memorable event for the community. As the original and largest (non-town hosted) street party in BWG's history, the celebration brought residents together for a nostalgic day filled with music, inflatable games, and lively activities that included Councillor Giordano's Band as well as local celebrities, Joee, and the Cara Lea Band.

This year, the event reached new heights, raising an impressive \$10,000, with funds earmarked specifically for purchasing wholesale goods from the local No Frills. The partnership with No Frills not only supports the community by providing essential goods at discounted rates but also strengthens the local economy by keeping contributions within BWG. The funds raised by the Retro Street Party, the neighbourhood attendees, and the amazing local sponsors helped us hit over \$25,000 in two years' worth of food for the Bradford Helping Hand Foodbank.

The party's success is a testament to the dedication and community spirit that makes Ward 4 unique. This annual celebration has gained popularity and influence, raising the bar for community engagement in BWG for years to come.



## Quick Facts

**Ward Councillor:** Joseph Giordano

**Ward Boundaries:** North: Line 9, East: Professor Day Drive South: Holland Street West, West: Sideroad 10

### Parks

Ron Simpson Memorial Park  
Summerlyn Parkette North  
Summerlyn Parkette South

### Trails

Summerlyn Valley Land Trail

### Schools

#### Primary

Harvest Hills Public School  
Fieldcrest Elementary School

#### Secondary

Bradford District High School

## Peter Ferragine

### Ward 5

Councillor Ferragine is proud of the work that has been done to see these changes implemented and is happy to see improvements throughout his ward and the community.

#### Community and Traffic Safety

The first half of Council's term saw major efforts toward traffic mitigation in BWG. The launch of the ASE pilot project has been a huge success, helping calm traffic and increase

pedestrian safety on some of our busiest roads. Councillor Ferragine is happy to see the positive impact that the ASE project has had throughout Town and his ward and looks forward to ensuring additional traffic safety measures are implemented over the remainder of his term.



*New pavillion at Henderson Park.*

## Park Upgrades

This summer, Councillor Ferragine was excited to see residents enjoying the newly updated Henderson Memorial Community Park. Significant upgrades were made to the Ward 5 park over the first half of term including the addition of a new 2400 square foot pavilion equipped with water access, hydro and a barbecue. The Town is excited to share that the pavilion is now a permittable space that residents can rent out for private gatherings of up to 100 people. Ferragine is excited about the advancements to one of BWG's busiest parks and looks forward to seeing families and community members utilizing all that Henderson Memorial Community Park has to offer.

BWG has been working closely with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority to evaluate the possibility of adding another baseball diamond at Joe Magani Park. The Town is currently awaiting approval for the detailed design with hopes to begin tendering in 2025.

Councillor Ferragine looks forward to ensuring further safety and community initiatives over the remainder of this term and is excited to be a part of the future of BWG.

## Quick Facts

**Ward Councillor:** Peter Ferragine

**Ward Boundaries:** North: Line 13, East: BWG East Border, South: Line 9 and County Road 88, West: County Road 27

### Parks

Henderson Memorial Community Park  
Joe Magani Community Park  
Scanlon Creek Conservation Area

### Trails

Scanlon Creek Conservation Area Recreational Trail

### Schools

Primary

Honourable Earl Rowe Public School

## Nicholas Harper

### Ward 6

Many advancements to community safety and accessibility throughout Ward 6 and BWG are underway, and Councillor Harper is proud of the positive impact these improvements are having within the community.

#### Park Upgrades

The revitalization of the Bill Marks Trail is now complete. Over the summer the Town removed and replaced the existing asphalt trail with a sloped and wider trail to help improve water drainage and accessibility of the greenspace. Councillor Harper was happy to see residents in his ward utilizing the newly improved trail and looks forward to being a champion for more upgrades throughout BWG.

#### Community and Traffic Safety

Traffic mitigation strategies are a key focus in Ward 6, where enhancing safety and reducing speeding are paramount. The ASE pilot project underwent its second rotation at the end of the summer and speed cameras were activated on Fletcher Street, between Church Street and Barrie Street, to help manage and calm traffic in this busy area. These measures aim to deter speeding and promote safer driving behaviors.



*Councillor Harper at Bill Marks Trail*

Ward 6 has seen other important traffic calming measures take place over the first half of this term. The installation of speed humps on Northgate Drive and Veterans Street have been critical to ensuring resident safety. Furthermore, traffic lights are up and running at the intersection of Professor Day Drive and Line 8, significantly improving safety by regulating the flow of vehicles and pedestrians. Resident safety is a top priority in BWG, and Councillor Harper remains committed to advocating for solutions to tackle this ongoing issue.

As Councillor Harper looks ahead to the second half of his term, he is eager to build on the progress made and is dedicated to continuing to make positive changes that drive the community forward.

#### Quick Facts

**Ward Councillor:** Nickolas Harper

**Ward Boundaries:** North: Line 9, East: Yonge Street, South: Holland Street West, West: Professor Day Drive

#### Parks

Veterans Park  
Depeuter Park  
Jackson Parkette

Rose Garden Parkette  
Davey Lookout

## Trails

Veterans Park Trail  
Bill Marks Trail and Greenspace

## Schools

Primary

St Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School  
Fred C. Cook Public School Ward 7

## Peter Dykie

### Ward 7

Significant improvements to accessibility and community safety continue throughout Ward 7.

### Park Upgrades

Exciting upgrades to Luxury Park are well underway with construction almost complete. Residents will soon be able to enjoy many new park features including a shaded area, sports court, paved looping paths, benches, and ample open green space. Councillor Dykie is proud of the Town's efforts to create an open and accessible space for families to enjoy and looks forward to unveiling the newly enhanced Luxury Park in 2025.

### Road Construction and Rehabilitation

BWG continues its investment toward improving roadway and water systems along Miller Park Avenue, Davey Boulevard, Agar Avenue, and part of Melbourne Drive. Nearing its completion, the 2023 Urban Roads project will see important upgrades to road infrastructure in the area with the installation of curbs, sidewalks, and electrical works, as well as a new watermain. These upgrades are a significant step toward a better and safer BWG.

Councillor Dykie is enthusiastic about the future of his ward, with several other road upgrades planned. Fred Cook Drive, Luxury Avenue, and Kulpin are just a few roadways that are set to be improved in the second half of council's term.

### Community and Traffic Safety

Traffic mitigation strategies are also at the forefront of Ward 7. Speed cameras have been installed on Miller Park Avenue, between Angela Street and West Park Avenue to help calm traffic in the area. Resident safety is a top priority in BWG, and the Town is committed to continuing efforts to help curb speeding throughout the community.



*Councillor Dykie at Miller Park Avenue.*



Councillor Dykie is proud of the work being done to create a safer and more accessible Ward 7, and he looks forward to ongoing improvements throughout the rest of his term.

## Quick Facts

**Ward Councillor:** Peter Dykie

**Ward Boundaries:** North: Holland Street West, East: Simcoe Road, South: Line 5, West: Melbourne Drive and Brownlee Drive

### Parks

Rotary Park  
Luxury Park  
Fuller Heights Park  
Green Valley Park

### Trails

Fuller Height Trail

### Schools

Primary

Marshview Public School  
St. Jean De Brebeuf Catholic School  
W.H. Day Elementary School

## Advisory Committee Updates

### Green Initiatives Advisory Committee

BWG's Green Initiatives Advisory Committee has prioritized the development of a Climate Change Mitigation Master Plan. This strategic framework will steer the town's initiatives to reduce emissions, improve energy efficiency, and foster a more affordable, sustainable public sector.

Ongoing enhancements to parks, trails, and green infrastructure are just the beginning, with future projects aimed at further enriching BWG's natural landscapes.

The committee has also endorsed three major advocacy initiatives. The first is the Right to Repair movement, which seeks to empower consumers by ensuring the availability of parts and



*Members of the Green Initiatives Advisory Committee.*

repair manuals for electronic devices, significantly reducing electronic waste. This initiative is particularly vital for farmers who rely on the ability to repair complex agricultural equipment on-site.

The second initiative is the Mayor's Monarch Butterfly Pledge, which emphasizes the importance of preserving pollinator populations through the implementation of naturalized landscaping practices.

Finally, the committee is also dedicated to water protection, advocating for substantial investments in the Lake Simcoe watershed. This includes promoting a renewed Lake Simcoe Protection Plan and introducing nature-based solutions to address the cleanup of the Holland River.

In recognition of its impactful efforts, the BWG Green Initiatives Advisory Committee was honoured with the Lake Simcoe Watershed Heroes Award in the Healthy Communities category at the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's (LSRCA) Conservation Awards. This award highlights the committee's dedication to combatting climate change, protecting natural habitats, and enhancing green spaces.

## Committee Highlights

### Committee Members

**Chair:** Councillor Jonathan Scott

**Council Representative:** Councillor Ben Verkaik

**Public Members:** Ron Orr, Anne Wright, Domenic Filippone, Kathy Howitt, Elizabeth Simpson Hills, Nadia Sinclair, and Jody Mott.

**Environmental Resource Member:** Ben Bartosik

**SMDHU Resource Member:** Chantele Mayer

### Mission

This committee's focus is to provide advice regarding initiatives that support the environmental health of the Town along with the mental, physical, and societal benefits for residents.

## Budget 2024

### BWG's Budget Process

With Budget deliberations currently underway, understanding how the budget process works is crucial for both residents and decision-makers. BWG ensures transparency, helps prioritize community needs, and allows for informed discussions about where resources should be allocated when making considerations for the upcoming fiscal year. By staying informed and engaged, residents can better understand the core needs of the community and contribute to shaping a budget that supports future growth.

Below is a timeline outlining BWG's budget process, highlighting each step Council and the Town take during deliberations.

#### May 2024: Budget Schedule

Council confirms the timelines for the preparation of the next municipal budget.

#### June-Sept 2024: Budget Preparation

Town staff and managers review plans, assets, and service levels to prepare budgets and adjust user fees for rising costs.

#### Oct-Nov 2024: Budget Review

The finance department reviews departmental budget submissions and presents them to the CAO and Mayor.

#### Oct 2024: Draft Budget Presentation

The finance department assembles and releases the draft budget to council for review.

#### Nov 2024: Public Budget Engagement

The draft Budget is available for members of the public to review and comment on.

#### Nov 2024: Formal Budget Presentations and deliberations.

The Budget approval process starts during a special meeting of council.

## Budget 2024

### BWG's Civic Centre on the Horizon

The Strategic Initiatives Advisory Committee is excited to share updates on the evolving plans for Bradford West Gwillimbury's Civic Centre. In early October, design ideas were presented to Council members, sparking discussions on the conceptual framework for the building.

The project will utilize a design-build methodology, which allows for flexibility as details continue to develop. The goal is to issue a tender for the design-build in spring 2025. Key features of the proposed Civic Centre include its orientation along Simcoe Rd, the use of mass timber construction, and the incorporation of a performing arts space alongside recreational facilities such as a fitness studio and gymnasium.

Below are some preliminary renderings produced by Moriyama Teshima Architects.



View of the Civic Centre from Simcoe Street and Edward Street.



View of the Public Plaza / Rooftop Terrace



View of the Atrium inside the Civic Centre.



## Budget 2024

### BWG's Civic Centre on the Horizon

#### The 2023 Urban Roads Project: Phase 1

Phase 1 saw the replacement of the aging watermain on Agar Ave. and Davey Blvd. New pipes, valves, hydrants, and services were installed, and storm and sanitary sewers were repaired and upgraded. The project also enhanced street lighting with new poles and lights, added sidewalks on Agar Ave. and Davey Blvd., repaired sidewalks on Miller Park Ave., and replaced disturbed grass with fresh sod.

#### The 2023 Urban Roads Project: Phases 2-3

Currently in the design stage, phases 2 and 3 of the Urban Roads Project aim to further address the aging infrastructure in BWG's older neighborhoods. Key upgrades will involve enhancing the town's watermain system and repairing or replacing identified storm and sanitary sewers. A review of the street lighting system will also be conducted to ensure adequate illumination in all areas.



SWAR: Northbound towards Line 6

#### Holland Street Revitalization: Contract One

Also in its design phase, the Holland Street Revitalization Project is focused on improving aging infrastructure along Mary St., Drury St., Thomas St., and Elizabeth St. This includes upgrading the town's watermain system and repairing or replacing necessary storm and sanitary sewers. The street lighting system will also be assessed to address any areas lacking sufficient lighting.

#### Line 8 Improvements

A Class Environmental Assessment (EA) is underway to plan for traffic and pedestrian safety through 2031. The EA will be completed by the end of 2025 and will guide future design and reconstruction. This summer, the roadway between SR10 and Barrie Street was resurfaced due to asphalt wear, and new traffic signals were installed at Professor Day Drive and Line 8.

#### SWAR Project

The SWAR project was completed in summer 2024 after two years of construction. It involved reconstructing Sideroad 10 and Line 5 from Holland Street to the Line 5 interchange, installing a new roundabout at SR10 and Line 6, and upgrading stormwater management with twin box culverts at Fraser Creek. A continuous, well-lit pedestrian pathway was also added along Line 6, stretching from Langford Blvd to the roundabout and north to Holland Street.

## Budget 2024

### Litta Trap™ Pilot Underway in BWG

This spring BWG launched a two-year pilot project to install and maintain LittaTraps, based on a recommendation from the Green Initiatives Advisory Committee that was approved by Council. These traps are designed to catch litter before it enters stormwater drains, helping to protect the West Holland River and, ultimately, Lake Simcoe.

In May, 32 LittaTraps were installed at various locations throughout town. Each trap captures garbage and pollutants larger than 5 mm that flow into stormwater drains during rainfall and snow melt events. Town staff will maintain and monitor the traps to determine cleaning frequency and track the types of waste removed to assess their effectiveness.

“LittaTraps are a simple but effective tool to keep our environment clean. They work by capturing litter before it can pollute our streets and waterways. These innovative retrofits to our older stormwater infrastructure are already showing how they can help keep the Holland River and our neighbourhoods clean.” – Jonathan Scott, Ward 2 Councillor and Chair of the Green Initiatives Advisory Committee

The first cleanout and waste audit took place in September 2024, with the next one scheduled for spring 2025. The September audit collected 263.47 kg of waste, consisting of 94% sand/silt, 4.7% organic material, and 0.6% plastic.

A final report on the project’s findings will be presented to Council upon completion. For more information, please contact the Infrastructure Services Department.

## BWG Hosts 2nd Mayor and Council’s Golf Tournament

The Annual Mayor and Council Golf Tournament for BWG was a resounding success this year! On September 6, 144 participants came together for a day of golf, networking, and, most importantly, fundraising for vital community initiatives. Each year, the council selects a worthy cause to support, and this year’s tournament raised approximately \$100,000. These funds will benefit the town’s celebration of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) centennial, as well as proposed amenities for the future Civic Centre.

The event featured 18 holes of golf, complemented by various fun activities and treats that kept spirits high. Mayor James Leduc expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to connect with community members and local business supporters. “We are incredibly thankful for the ongoing support from our residents and businesses in BWG,” he said. “Their commitment to our community is what makes events like this possible. These funds will help drive amazing initiatives that benefit everyone.”

Fundraising events like the golf tournament play a crucial role in strengthening the connection between council and the community. They foster collaboration and unity, allowing residents to come together for a common goal. The contributions from local businesses and individuals not only enhance community projects but also promote a sense of belonging and pride among residents.

Council is excited about next year’s tournament and the opportunity to support another meaningful cause. The anticipation of future events underscores the importance of community involvement and the lasting impact it can have on Bradford West Gwillimbury.

Thank you to our 2024 Sponsors

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Bayview Wellington Homes

**Platinum Event Sponsor:**

Highlight Motor Group

**Gold Specialty Hole Sponsors:**

Argo

The Sargent Co. Ltd.

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DG Group

Great Gulf

Ambria Group Inc.

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Evoke Residential Inc.  
Bitstogigabits IncO/A Jb Micro  
Genesis Gymnastics  
Modular Precast Systems

## Gearing Up for Winter

Although the start of winter is still a few months away, the Town's Transportation Division has officially begun its preparations for the snowy season ahead.

This is a busy time of year for the Transportation Division, the team responsible for maintaining BWG's road and sidewalk network. Every year following the Labour Day weekend, the team begins their transition into fall and winter mode – this includes fall street sweeping, removing summer equipment from dump trucks and sidewalk machines, attaching wing plows, calibrating material spreaders, and ensuring all equipment is in good running order for the season ahead.



*BWG's sidewalk plow at the urban yard*

The town has over 30 pieces of snow removal equipment including 13 plow trucks and 8 sidewalk machines. Nearly all the equipment is dual purpose and we own and operate them throughout the entire year.

### Service Standards

BWG's road network includes arterial, collector, and local roads. Each road is assessed into one of these three categories based on road class under the MMS (O. Reg. 239/02: Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways), annual daily traffic determined through traffic counts, and the presence of schools/emergency services. During storm events, all arterial roads receive priority servicing (like Holland Street, Bridge Street, Dissette Street, and Melbourne Drive). Collector roads are next on the schedule and include main roadways through neighbourhoods (like Maplegrove Avenue, Britannia Avenue, and Miller Park Avenue), followed



by local roads which comprise all other roadways and courts. Sidewalks are also prioritized in the same manner.

The Town has three scheduled shifts throughout the winter months. The early shift road crew starts at 4:00 am; the sidewalk, walkway, and laneway crew starts at 6:00 am; and the day shift starts at 7:00 am. During an average snowfall of 5-10cm, roads are typically cleared by 12:00 pm, followed by the sidewalk crew at 2:00 pm. There are, of course, always areas that require touching up, including wide corners, courts, and other areas that may have previously been blocked. Following significant snow events, staff also collect and remove bulk snow from the downtown core, courts, and other areas where snow storage is an issue.

### Application Material

Once cleared of snow, sidewalks are treated using a 50/50 blend of salt and sand, to support the breakdown of ice and provide additional grip when walking along the sidewalk. Sand, with 4% salt, is applied to low-traffic roads, line roads, and gravel roadways. The remaining areas are given a treated salt that includes an activator to help the salt work faster, longer, and in colder temperatures. Treated salt is bright blue in colour and concentrated, allowing a lower rate of application – approximately 30% less as compared to regular salt – and limiting trips to reload material. The operations staff monitor the weather four times daily using radar and road temperature sensors on equipment to verify that material rates will work effectively while not over spreading.

### Snow Clearing Tips

The Town's winter parking restrictions are in place to ensure our snow clearing crew can provide a high quality and efficient service during winter storms. Although the restrictions are not enforced during the daytime, it is recommended to move your car from the roadway and onto your driveway during winter storms, to allow the plows to clean the full width of the roadway. If the roads are not cleared back to the curb each time, catch basins may become blocked and could flood during warmer temperatures. Another rule of thumb to follow is to clear a space to the left end of your driveway so that when the snow plow comes down your street, it pushes most of the snow into that cleared space and not at the end of your driveway.

### Reporting an Incident/Complaint

The most efficient way to report a snow clearing-related complaint or concern is through the myBWG App or Report an Issue Form on our website. Submissions are sent directly to the Town's Transportation team for review and staff can respond as needed. The Town also uses a snowline for concerns, compliments, and complaints. Messages are forwarded to the winter operations team: 905 775 5366 ext. 2222.

# Upcoming Events and Campaigns

## Santa Claus Parade

Saturday, November 16

BWG's greatest holiday tradition brings friends and families together as local businesses, service groups, clubs, entertainers and more bring the holiday spirit to life. The parade attracts thousands of spectators each year to enjoy the show under the stars. The parade features numerous diverse floats from the community beginning at Bradford High School and travelling east on Holland Street, finishing at the Bradford and District Memorial Community Centre.

**Location:** Holland Street

**Time:** 6:00 - 7:30 pm

[Click here to learn more](#)

## Snow Much Fun

Friday, December 6

Celebrate the winter season at Snow Much Fun – a family-friendly, fun-filled community event. Join us at Sunshine Square for a tree lighting ceremony, train rides, entertainment, and a local artisan market. Indoor activities include leisure skating, crafts, and more!

Stay tuned on social media as we share more details over the next several weeks.

**Location:** BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)

**Time:** 6:00-8:30 pm

[Click here to learn more](#)

## Family First Night

Sunday, December 31

Ring in the New Year with family, friends, and fireworks at BWG's 11th annual Family First Night!

Join us for an evening of skating, inflatable obstacle courses, live musical entertainment, busker shows, crafts, fireworks, and more.

**Location:** BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)

**Time:** 4:00-7:00 pm

[Click here to learn more](#)

## Mayor's New Year's Levee

Sunday, January 5

Celebrate the New Year with BWG Council at the 7th annual Mayor's New Year's Levee. The event will feature activities including leisure skating, performances by local musicians, and cake for all participants!

**Location:** BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)

**Time:** 12:00-2:15 pm

## Budget 2024

### A Central Hub for Entrepreneurial Excellence in BWG

In the Winter 2024 edition of Connected, we shared exciting news about a future Business Catalyst Centre (BCC) to support local entrepreneurs, academia, and investors and stimulate innovation and economic growth. The Centre will offer a physical space to collaborate, host seminars, meetings, and events, and provide business-focused programming and mentorship from local partners.

Although a permanent location is currently being explored within BWG's downtown core, the Office of Economic Development (OED) officially launched programming in October 2024 with a free workshop series for local entrepreneurs and small business owners.

In partnership with Nottawasaga Futures and the Henry Bernick Entrepreneurship Centre (HBEC) at Georgian College, the OED is hosting four workshop sessions, each focusing on critical aspects of business growth. The workshops offer practical guidance from experienced professionals while promoting the BCC and showcasing the mentors and services the Centre will offer.

These preliminary sessions will also help the OED:

- Generate a contact list,
- Gather insight on target markets (i.e. demand for BCC offerings segregated by client type, price sensitivity, etc.).
- Develop future programming and service delivery mix.
- Refine the BCC's business plan and financial projections.

Although one of the workshops has already taken place, there is still time to register for future sessions. If you are a local business owner looking to level up your business and connect with other entrepreneurs, register online to join any of the upcoming in-person workshops:

#### 1. Introduction to Intellectual Property

Presented by Elizabeth Collison

The first session took place on October 4, 2024.

#### 2. Mastering Business Insurance

Presented by Heather Hill

November 12, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

### **3. Winning Marketing Strategies for Impact**

Presented by Michael Gutta  
December 5, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

### **4. Financial Savvy and Business Systems for Entrepreneurs**

Presented by Paul Ohem  
(Small Business Week special)  
January 21, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

#### **The Future of the BCC**

The BCC aims to become a central hub for entrepreneurial excellence in BWG, facilitating access to high-quality resources, expert guidance, and a supportive community of fellow entrepreneurs. As we look ahead to 2025 and beyond, in collaboration with the HBEC and Nottawasaga Futures, the BCC will focus on expanding its programming to cater to the diverse needs of our entrepreneurial community.

The BCC plans to host many more conferences, summits, networking opportunities, workshops, and other business development programs that bring entrepreneurs, industry leaders, investors, and innovators under one roof. Specialized programs, like XcellerateHER (connecting women entrepreneurs to events, peer groups, mentorship, funding, and support), are also on the horizon.

To date, the BCC has secured \$530,000 in funding from the Town, Co-Working Partners, and the Rural Economic Development Fund, with additional funding applications pending. The EOD is excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and remains dedicated to facilitating entrepreneurial success and fostering economic growth in BWG!

## **Closing Remarks from Deputy Mayor**

As we close out another edition of Connected and reflect on the past year in the Town of BWG, I want to take a moment to express my pride in our vibrant community. It has been a remarkable year, and I know Council shares this sentiment wholeheartedly. We feel very fortunate to be part of this community and are dedicated to ensuring the betterment of our residents and the Town.

Throughout the year, I have had the pleasure of attending numerous events, from the beloved Pumpkin Fest to various business openings and community gatherings. Each event not only highlights the spirit of our town, but also represents our commitment to progress. We've had great success in advancing land developments and planning for new schools and additional greenspace – all aimed at enhancing the quality of life for the residents who call BWG home.

We have also collaborated closely with Southlake Regional Health Centre to explore ways we can provide care more conveniently for residents of BWG. Council has approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Southlake and the health team. While non-binding, this MOU aims to formalize our commitment to enhancing health facilities and resources in our



town. It aligns with Southlake's distributed model of care, which aims to offer additional health-care services closer to home across the communities the hospital serves through expanded programs and new facilities. We are excited about the possibilities this partnership will bring.

Our council works tirelessly to deliver on the needs and concerns of our community. I encourage everyone to reach out with any questions or comments you may have. We are here to listen, and your input is invaluable in shaping the future of BWG.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raj Sandhu', written in a cursive style.

**Deputy Mayor Raj Sandhu**